

Matthew Tompkins

THE
BANNER OF THE COVENANT.

~~~~~  
*For Christ's Crown and Covenant.*  
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CONDUCTED BY THE SECRETARIES OF THE BOARD OF MISSIONS OF THE
REFORMED PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH.

NOVEMBER, 1848.

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MEETING OF SYNOD.

The whole of our present Number is occupied with the Minutes of Synod, and the accompanying documents. We have delayed issuing this Number in order that we might thus present them to our readers as early as possible. They will be found to contain much interesting information in regard to the state and prospects of our church, which, it will be seen by perusing them, were never before so cheering. This meeting of Synod, we may add, was of the most agreeable character.

☞ We have been obliged to postpone till our next number, Notices of New Publications, and several interesting communications.

NOTICE.

Those congregations who did not forward their contribution for the Seminary last year, are respectfully notified of the action of Synod calling upon them to forward them immediately. The debt accumulated by this inattention is due to the treasurer of Synod, who has advanced the money. It is hoped that those concerned will feel, and at once discharge their obligations. (See Minutes of Synod.)

The General Synod having directed that a new edition of the Testimony be published, and that the Book of Discipline be appended to it, Sessions and Presbyteries are requested to forward their orders to the Treasurer of Synod, Mr. Geo. H. Stuart, No. 14 Strawberry St., Philadelphia, as soon as possible. It is proposed to stereotype the work, and it will be necessary to dispose of from 700 to 800 copies in order to defray the first cost of publication. The work will be brought out in a style much superior to the last edition, and its cost will be not over 31½ cts. per copy. As soon as the prime cost is guaranteed, it will be put to press. The Book of Discipline will not be published except in connexion with the Testimony.

THE VARIATIONS OF POPERY,

By REV. SAMUEL EDGAR, D.D., OF IRELAND: WITH AN APPENDIX, BY REV. J. N. McLEOD, D.D., OF NEW YORK. *First American edition. Revised, corrected, and enlarged from the Author's MSS., by REV. CHARLES SPARRY.*

THIS WORK will be published in four numbers, making a volume of between 600 and 700 large octavo pages, printed from new type, and on superfine paper. The first number is already issued; second number will be ready in May; third, in June; fourth, in July.

The mechanical execution of the American edition will be superior, in every respect, to the London.

Subscription price \$2, in advance; postage will be paid by the publisher on all letters containing the subscription.

LIBERAL OFFER.

The publisher will send the work to Ministers and Theological Students for \$1, provided the subscription is mailed, post-paid, by the first of June.

All moneys sent by mail for this work will be at the risk of the publisher.

All orders must be directed to C. SPARRY, Publisher, No. 90, Fulton Street, New York.

*** The public will take notice that we have no travelling agents for this work.

WM. S. YOUNG,
BOOKSELLER AND STATIONER,
No. 173 Race Street, Philadelphia.

Banner of the Covenant.

NOVEMBER, 1848.

PROCEEDINGS

OF THE GENERAL SYNOD OF THE REFORMED PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH IN
NORTH AMERICA.

SESSION XXVI.

{ *New York, October 11, 1848,*
 { *half past 7 o'clock, P. M.*

The General Synod of the Reformed Presbyterian church in North America met, pursuant to adjournment, (the new church edifice for Dr. M'Leod's congregation not being completed,) in the Thirteenth street Presbyterian church.

The Rev. Gordon T. Ewing, Moderator of the last Synod, having been removed by death, the synod was opened with a sermon by Rev. Dr. M'Master, from Psalm lxxxvii. 3, "Glorious things are spoken of thee, O city of God."

After sermon, Rev. Dr. Black constituted the Synod by prayer.

Whereupon, synod adjourned to meet to-morrow morning, at 10 o'clock, in the lecture room of the First Presbyterian church, in Eleventh street. Dr. Black concluding by prayer.

{ Lecture room of 1st Presb. church,
 { 10 o'clock, A. M., Oct. 12.

Synod met pursuant to adjournment, Rev. Dr. Black in the chair, and was opened by prayer.

Proceeded to ascertain the members, when it appeared that the following appointments had been made by the respective presbyteries.

Northern Presbytery, Rev. Dr. M'Leod, A. G. Wylie, D. J. Patterson, Alexander Clarke, R. A. Hill—alternate, Henry Gordon, Ministers; and Thomas Cumming, William Agnew, Daniel Stewart, William Cunningham, Thos. M'Burney, Wm. C. Beattie, Ruling Elders.

Philadelphia Presbytery, Rev. Dr. Wylie, Dr. Crawford, T. W. J. Wylie, R. J. Black, J. Agnew Crawford, W. Sterrett, Ministers; and G. H. Stuart, Robt. Guy, Jos. Fleming, Wm. Hogg, Samuel Teas, Jos. M'Kendrick—alternates, C. M'Cune, W. Montgomery, Ruling Elders.

Pittsburgh Presbytery, Rev. Dr. Black, T. C. Guthrie, G. Scott, A. W. Black, J. Hutchman, R. M'Cracken, Ministers; and Thos. Smith, Henry Sterling, James Williams, Charles Silliman, Jas. Scott, John N. Ewer, Jas. Jordan, John Brown, Ruling Elders.

Ohio Presbytery, Rev. Dr. M'Master, Dr. Heron, H. M'Millan, G. M'Millan—alternate, E. Cooper, ministers; and Robt. C. Reed, John

Little, Jas. Cook, Samuel Little—alternates, John Orr, Robt. Martin, A. Wier, John M'Clure, Ruling Elders.

Western Presbytery, Rev. S. Wylie, John M'Master, T. A. Wylie, M. Harshaw, J. W. Morrison—alternate, A. M. Stewart, Ministers; and William Orr, James Blair, Jeremiah Smith, Dr. M'Quiston, Ruling Elders.

From the Presbytery of Saharanpur there was no representation.

The roll of synod as completed is as follows: Rev. John N. M'Leod, D. D., Andrew Gifford Wylie, David J. Patterson, Alex. Clarke, Robt. Alexander Hill, Samuel B. Wylie, D. D., Samuel W. Crawford, D. D., T. W. J. Wylie, Robert J. Black, John A. Crawford, Wm. Sterrett, John Black, D. D., A. W. Black, Gilbert M'Master, D. D., Hugh M'Millan, Andrew Heron, D. D., Samuel Wylie, Theophilus A. Wylie, Ministers; and Wm. Agnew, Thos. Cumming, Thos. M'Burney, Daniel Stewart, Wm. Cunningham, Wm. C. Beattie, Geo. H. Stuart, Robt. Guy, Wm. Hogg, Robt. C. Reed, Ruling Elders.

Absent, Rev. Henry Gordon, Thos. C. Guthrie, Geo. Scott, Josiah Hutchman, Robt. M'Cracken, Gavin M'Millan, Ebenezer Cooper, John M'Master, Michael Harshaw, John W. Morrison, Alex. M. Stewart, Jas. R. Campbell, Joseph Caldwell, John S. Woodside.

Proceeded to the choice of officers. Whereupon, on motion, Rev. Andrew Heron, D. D., was unanimously chosen Moderator. Dr. M'Leod continued stated clerk, and Rev. A. W. Black appointed assistant.

The minutes of the last session of Synod were read throughout, as already approved.

On motion, synod took a recess for fifteen minutes.

Resumed business, when the Moderator announced the standing committees as follows:

Committee on unfinished business, the Clerks.

Committee on discipline, Dr. M'Master, S. Wylie, and William Agnew.

Committee on Presbyterial Reports, Rev. H. M'Millan, A. G. Wylie, and Thos. Cumming.

Committee on Finance, Rev. A. W. Black, and Geo. H. Stuart.

Committee on Signs of the Times, Rev. T. W. J. Wylie, Alexander Clarke, and R. Reed.

Committee on Supplies, Rev. S. Wylie, H. M'Millan, R. J. Black, A. W. Black, and D. J. Patterson.

Committee on Theological Seminary, Rev. Dr. M'Leod, Dr. Black and Professor Wylie.

Committee on Devotional Exercises, Rev. J. Agnew Crawford and Robt. A. Hill.

Proceeded to the consideration of unfinished business, according to the docket of stated clerk.

The committee on foreign correspondence reported as follows:

Paper No. 1.—A letter from the "Synod of the Reformed Presbyterian church in Scotland, to the General Synod of the Reformed Presbyterian church in North America." On motion it was received and read, the high satisfaction of synod expressed, and the document referred to the committee on foreign correspondence, with directions to prepare and transmit an appropriate reply.

Copies of the minutes of Scottish synod, and of their "Expostulation

on slavery" were also presented, and laid on the table for the use of synod.

Paper No. 2.—A communication from a committee of the Scottish Reformed Synod, respecting an individual who had been made a subject of discipline for intemperance, and who had emigrated to the U. States. It was received and read. On motion, the satisfaction of synod was expressed with it, as fraternal in its tone, and calculated to promote the cause of sound morals, and it was referred to the committee on foreign correspondence.

Paper No. 3.—A letter from "the Eastern Synod of the Reformed Presbyterian church in Ireland." It was received and read, and on motion, Synod declared their great gratification in receiving it: it was referred to the committee on foreign correspondence, which was directed to prepare and transmit a suitable answer.

Paper No. 4.—A communication from a committee of "the General Assembly of the Presbyterian church in the United States," inviting synod to a conference on the subject of union, with accompanying documents. It was received and read, and, on motion, referred to a special committee of three. The moderator named as that committee, Drs. M'Master, Black, and M'Leod.

(See document A, in the appendix.)

Inquiries were made as to the observance of the days of fasting and thanksgiving. Replies were declared satisfactory.

Domestic missionaries were called upon to report. They reported individually or by others. Reports declared satisfactory.

The Philadelphia, Pittsburgh, Ohio, and Western Presbyteries reported. They were read, accepted, and referred to the committee on presbyterial reports.

A petition in connexion with the report of the Western Presbytery, from the Walnut Hill congregation, Illinois, was received, read, and referred to the committee on supplies.

Resolved, That synod hold but one sitting daily, commencing at 10 o'clock, A. M., and terminating at 2 o'clock, P. M., until further ordered.

An invitation was presented to synod from the session and trustees of the church in Waverly Place (or Sixth street,) to hold their sessions in the house of worship under their direction.

Whereupon, it was, on motion,

Resolved, That the invitation be accepted in the same spirit in which it is tendered, and that when synod adjourn, it be to meet in the church in Waverly Place.

Resolved, That the thanks of synod be tendered to the authorities of the Thirteenth street Presbyterian church, and of the First Presbyterian church, for the use of their places of worship on last evening and to-day.

Resumed the consideration of unfinished business.

The committee on the Book of Discipline reported progress, and had leave to sit again.

The committee appointed by last synod to reply to the protest of Rev. Wm. Wilson against the decision of synod in the case of his appeal, reported verbally, that, inasmuch as the protestor, Rev. William Wilson, had withdrawn from the communion of the Reformed Presbyterian church, and his name was stricken from the roll of her ministers, it was not necessary, in the estimation of the committee, to give any

further attention to the subject. The report was, on motion, approved, and the committee discharged.

The chairman of the commission, Rev. Dr. Black, appointed by last synod to adjust the affairs of the congregation of Cincinnati, reported that the commission did not meet at the time at first appointed, and that the necessity for its meeting subsequently, was obviated by circumstances well known to synod. On motion, the report was approved, and the commission discharged.

On motion of Rev. Dr. Wylie, it was

Resolved, That a committee (consisting of a member from each presbytery) be appointed to inquire into the propriety of resuscitating the particular synods, and providing for biennial meetings of the General Synod.

The committee are Rev. Dr. M^cMaster, A. G. Wylie, A. W. Black, S. Wylie, and H. M^cMillan.

The hour having arrived, synod adjourned, the moderator concluding by prayer.

} Church in Waverly Place,
} Oct. 13, 1848, 10 o'clock, A.M.

Synod met, and was opened by prayer. Same members present as before, with the addition of Mr. Robt. Guy.

The minutes of the last meeting were read and approved.

The committee on devotional exercises presented their report. It was accepted, and, on motion, recommitted.

Resolved, That a select committee of three be appointed, to devise a plan for the more efficient direction of domestic missions. The committee are Rev. T. W. J. Wylie, S. Wylie, and H. M^cMillan. On motion, Rev. A. Clarke and A. W. Black, were added to the committee.

Resolved, That the rule determining the time of meeting, be suspended, and that synod adjourn to meet this afternoon at 4 o'clock.

Adjourned, Dr. M^cMaster concluding by prayer.

Same place, 4 o'clock, P. M.

Synod met, and was opened by prayer. Same members present as before.

Minutes of the last meeting were read and approved.

The committee on the resuscitation of the particular synods presented their report. It was, on motion, received, and laid on the table for future consideration.

The Northern Presbytery presented their report. It was received, read, and referred to the committee on presbyterial reports.

The committee on the Book of Discipline, reported the book as revised, and submitted it to the consideration of synod with a view to its adoption. Whereupon, it was

Resolved, That synod proceed to the consideration of the Book of Discipline, chapter by chapter, with a view to its adoption.

The introduction and chapter first, section first, articles first and second, were severally read, and, after consideration, adopted.

Synod adjourned, Rev. Samuel Wylie concluding by prayer.

Same place, Oct. 14, 10 o'clock, A. M.

Synod met, and was opened by prayer. Same members present as before, with the addition of Rev. Dr. Crawford.

The minutes of the last meeting were read and approved.

The committee on domestic missions presented their report. It was read, and, on motion, recommitted, Mr. G. H. Stuart was added to the committee, and it was directed to prepare a plan of management to be submitted to synod, as soon as possible.

Proceeded to the order of the day, the consideration of the report of the committee on the resuscitation of the particular synods. It was, on motion, adopted. It is as follows:

Report of the Committee on Subordinate Synods.

The committee to whom was referred the consideration of the resuscitation of the subordinate synods, having given to the subject that degree of attention which circumstances admitted, beg leave respectfully to

Report:

That whilst persuaded that the principle which the subject embraces is sound, they doubt as to the expediency of acting on it in the present condition of the church. Such are the views of a majority of your committee, and the minority, though differing in opinion from their brethren in this, are not disposed to give expression to that difference in a counter-report. The following resolutions are recommended, in the matter, for the adoption of synod:

Resolved, 1st, That though approving of the principle of subordinate synods, when the condition of the church will justify the adoption of the measure, yet it is believed, that at present it is inexpedient.

Resolved, 2d, That the consideration of the resuscitation of the subordinate synods be referred to the presbyteries, and that they be required to report their judgment in the matter to General Synod at its next meeting. Respectfully submitted, by order of the

COMMITTEE.

Proceeded to the order of the day, the consideration of the Book of Discipline. Section second, chapter first, articles first and second; and section third, articles first, second and third, were adopted.

The committee on devotional exercises presented their report.

Resolved, That the whole of the report, except what refers to the devotional exercises themselves, be stricken out.

Resolved, That after the devotional exercises, Rev. Alexander Clarke have an opportunity to address the synod on the subject of his present field of labour.

Synod then adjourned, concluding by prayer.

Same place, Oct. 16, 10 o'clock, A. M.

Synod met, and was opened by prayer. Same members present as before.

Minutes of the last meeting were read and approved.

The committee on presbyterial reports presented their report. It was, on motion, accepted and adopted. It is as follows:

Report of the Committee on Presbyterial Reports.

The committee respectfully report to synod as follows:

That the reports of the presbyteries are of a highly encouraging character. They contain no complaints or appeals. They present the brethren, in the several departments of the church, as of one mind, striving together for the faith of the gospel; and show that the ordinances are duly dispensed, and, in many cases, attended with considerable success. From them, we also learn, that the number of ministers and licentiates, of organized congregations and missionary stations, has greatly increased, since the last reports to synod.

That the cry from all departments is for more labourers, and that the harvest is great, and the labourers are few. For this state of peace and prosperity in all our borders, we are called to thank God, and to take courage for the future. As the days have been, in which we have seen evil, so may they be, in which we will see good. From the reports before us, it appears, that a wide and extensive field of ministerial labour, is before the church: She should endeavour to go forth and occupy it. By doing so, we may expect to see the fulfilment of the promise, that the "Lord will comfort Zion, he will comfort all her waste places, he will make her wilderness as Eden, her desert as the garden of the Lord; joy and gladness will be found in her, thanksgiving and the voice of melody." The committee conclude with the following recommendations:

1. That suitable extracts from these reports, be published with the minutes of synod.

2. That presbyteries, in preparing their reports, do it with brevity, confining themselves to what is strictly presbyterial, with a view to their entire publication.

Signed,

COMMITTEE.

Report of the Northern Presbytery.

To the General Synod of the Reformed Presbyterian Church in North America:—

The Northern Presbytery respectfully report to General Synod as follows: Since the last meeting of the supreme judicatory, there has been a very considerable revival of the interests of religion within their geographical boundaries. It has been the good pleasure of the Divine and only Head of the church, to make large accessions to the number of their people, organized congregations and ministers, and they trust, that there has been a corresponding increase of the spirit and practice of vital godliness. Their older congregations are at peace, their numbers are augmenting, and they remain faithful to their religious obligations. Sabbath-school instruction is observed, the stated ordinances of a public character are respected, contributions to the various institutions of the church, and to the commendable benevolent operations of the day, are not forgotten, and it is hoped that some influence for God and holiness, and the salvation of men, is exerted by all the societies under their care, in their respective localities. Presbytery desire to recognise, with gratitude and joy, the Divine favours dispensed to them so liberally during the past synodical year, and to derive from them a stimulus to greater efforts, for the promotion of the Divine glory, in the salvation of the souls of men.

On the 8th of December, 1847, Mr. Robert A. Hill was licensed to preach the everlasting gospel. And on the 4th of September, 1848, he was ordained to the ministry, and installed pastor of the Reformed Presbyterian church in Ryegate, state of Vermont. And thus, in the good providence of God, this old post of the church is re-occupied, and its excellent people and their pastor, the object of their unanimous choice, have commenced together a new career of usefulness.

At our meeting, in April last, a petition signed by sixty-two individuals of the city of Brooklyn and its vicinity, asking for the organization of a congregation under the care of presbytery, was presented. The petition was granted, and the First Reformed Presbyterian church, Brooklyn, N. Y., was organized, according to the due order. A unanimous call was presented by that people to Mr. David J. Patterson, licentiate, and being accepted by him, he was ordained to the ministry and installed pastor on the 25th of April, 1848. The new congregation is in a highly promising condition. At the same meeting of presbytery, a petition was presented from Rev. Alexander Clarke and congregations, for admission to connexion with presbytery. Mr. Clarke had been for several years a missionary connected with the Reformed Synod in Ireland, before the disruption of that body, but owing to a variety of circum-

stances, growing out of the state of the divided church, and the peculiarities of his own position, he had not considered himself as responsible to that body, for some time past. Mr. Clarke was known to presbytery, as a man and minister of the best character and standing; as firmly attached to Reformed Presbyterian principles, and as occupying a large and most important field of missionary enterprise. Presbytery cordially received him and his people, and proceeded to take steps to send him a helper.

A coadjutor to Mr. Clarke was soon found in the person of Mr. Henry Gordon, student of theology of the third year. He offered himself to the work. The offer was accepted, and after having passed, with great acceptance, the usual trials and examinations, Mr. Gordon was ordained to the ministry, and designated a missionary to Nova Scotia and New Brunswick, on the 2d of July, 1848. Mr. Gordon's outfit was furnished by the ladies of Dr. M'Leod's church, New York. He has arrived at his field, and met with a most cordial welcome. For further information respecting the large field added to their former sphere of operations, presbytery would refer the synod to a document prepared by Mr. Clarke, and herewith transmitted.*

At a meeting of presbytery, held on the 29th of June, 1848, a petition was received from a number of persons in Redfield, Oswego co., N. Y., praying for an organization as a congregation. The request was granted, and a committee of presbytery appointed to carry it into effect. The congregation, composed of sixteen persons, was duly organized, on the 12th of August, 1848. Could it obtain a stated supply of ordinances, there is every prospect that it would soon become a large and flourishing church. Every where, the Northern Presbytery can assure the General Synod, opportunities of church extension are opening before them. In the Atlantic cities, the flourishing towns of New England, or the state of New York, and the British provinces in their neighbourhood, are most inviting fields of usefulness. But where are the men to occupy them? God, in his good providence, has shown to presbytery during the past year, that he is able "out of these stones to raise up children unto Abraham." We look to him for the accomplishment of his own promises, but the means must be used. We implore synod not to suffer us to be neglected in the distribution of the aid they possess.

Presbytery would respectfully recommend to General Synod, to re-publish the Testimony. It is now out of print among us, and a great call is made for it, from inquirers after the good old paths.

Presbytery have now under their care but one licentiate, Mr. D. M'Alcese, who has been, for some time, labouring with acceptance in our bounds. He is now destined to a region in Canada, in the immediate vicinity of the United States, as destitute as it is promising. The people there earnestly desire a supply by him for six months, and this being granted, no other aid to our vacancies can be had without the aid of Synod.

We have two students of theology, Mr. John Young, who is still prosecuting a preparatory course, and Mr. Alexander G. M'Cauly, who recently acceded to our communion from the General Assembly of the Presbyterian church. Both these young men will, we trust, be ere long prepared to spend some time in the theological seminary, the great importance of which, to the church, is deeply felt by presbytery.

Presbytery have now six ministers, all of whom are pastors. The apportionment for the seminary, assigned to them by synod, has been paid. A considerable increase in their disbursements for foreign missions has taken place, and they have added, by resolution, one hundred and fifty dollars, per annum, to the obligations heretofore incurred for domestic missions.

That God may continue his blessing to the whole church, represented by General Synod, is the prayer of presbytery.

All which is respectfully submitted.

DAVID J. PATTERSON, *Presb. clerk.*

* See Appendix, Document G.

Report of the Philadelphia Presbytery.

The Reformed Presbytery of Philadelphia respectfully presents to General Synod the following report:

The time which has passed since the last meeting of your reverend body has been within our bounds a period of more than usual activity. We have, indeed, great reason, with shame and sorrow, to lament our own personal sinfulness, but even in view of this, we are constrained to express still deeper gratitude that the LORD hath not dealt with us according to our sins, and that he has not caused the department of the church under our care to languish in consequence of our unworthiness and guilt. At no former time has our general condition been more prosperous, and never before have our prospects been more encouraging. Since the last meeting of Synod we have been three times called upon to invest candidates for the ministry with that high and holy office. Mr. J. A. Crawford having accepted the call of the united congregations of Milton, McEwensville, and Washingtonville, Penna., was ordained on the 25th of August last. Mr. W. Sterrett having accepted the call of the 2d church, Philadelphia, was ordained on the 7th of April last. Mr. John S. Woodside, by the request of the Board of Missions, in view of his departure to India, as a missionary, was ordained on the 20th of June, having been licensed on the 26th of January previous. The two former brethren still remain connected with us; the last mentioned has departed on his journey to his distant field of labour, and as it is expected he will be united with the other missionaries in the re-constitution of the Presbytery of Saharanpur, his connexion with us may be considered as terminated. We feel called upon to express to Synod the esteem and affection which our entire intercourse with him has led us to cherish towards him, and we rejoice that one in whom the church may repose so much confidence, has been found to engage in a service so responsible and arduous. While in our bounds, and during a brief visit which he made to Ireland, his native country, he laboured with great diligence and acceptability, and appeared to have effected much good. In the interesting position in which he is now to act, we trust he may prove himself worthy of his lamented predecessor, and his present honoured associates.

Since our last meeting we have been favoured with a visit from Rev. Mr. Campbell, our esteemed and beloved senior missionary. Being compelled, by the ill health of his wife, to return to this country, he took up his abode among us, and was invited to act as a member of our Presbytery while he should remain in this land. We had numerous opportunities of enjoying with him delightful, official, and private intercourse, and found our hearts refreshed by his fellowship. His labours, while with us, were abundant, and his influence appeared to be very beneficial to the cause to which he was devoted.

The congregations under our care appear to be in a flourishing condition. Since the last meeting of Synod, several of them have received large accessions of members, not only persons formerly in connexion with other churches in this, or in distant lands, but also individuals making for the first time a profession of their faith. There is reason to believe that there is increased attention to fellowship meetings, and family religion. In general there is a consistent adherence to the Christian profession, and a spirit of zeal and liberality to sustain the ordinances among ourselves, and to extend them to the destitute in our own land, and among the heathen.

A number of the members of the 2d church, Philadelphia, having an earnest desire to obtain the pastoral services of Rev. Dr. Crawford, petitioned for a new organization, which was granted, and the 4th church, Philadelphia, was constituted on the 10th of May last. Dr. Crawford having accepted the unanimous call of the congregation, was installed as their pastor on the 17th of August.—Shortly after the meeting of Synod, an application was received from a number of persons in Washingtonville, Columbia county, Penna., requesting to

be organized as a congregation under our care; the petition was granted, and the new congregation united with the congregations of Milton and M'Ewensville, in a unanimous call for the ministerial services of Rev. J. A. Crawford.

By the preceding statements it will be seen that all our ministers have pastoral charges, and that we have no organized congregations remaining vacant. We have, however, within our bounds a very large and inviting field for missionary labour, and we need only proper persons to cultivate it, in order, with the divine blessing, to reap an abundant harvest. We have lately received an application for a supply of the ordinances from upwards of fifty persons residing in the district of Moyamensing, Phila., and a similar request has also been presented from more than thirty persons in Penn's Manor, Bucks county, Pa. In both these places, and in several others, we have no doubt flourishing congregations could soon be formed. Many places might be enumerated in the interior of this State, where the character of the population is such as to promise a large success. The fields are ripe unto the harvest; but the labourers—where are they? When all we need to do is to enter in and possess the land, it is indeed painful that so few can be found willing to go up to the help of the LORD, to the help of the LORD against the mighty.

Since your last meeting we have enjoyed the services of a number of licentiates, although we were disappointed in regard to those who were directed by Synod to spend the winter at the seminary, and from whom we had expected considerable assistance. Not one of these appeared in our bounds. Others, however, have been serviceable to us. Mr. J. W. Faries has, as heretofore, given such supplies as his health permitted, and circumstances required. At a meeting held on the 17th of August, 1847, Mr. David M'Alcese, who had recently arrived in this country, submitted to us very satisfactory testimonials of his standing and character as a licentiate under the care of the Presbyterian Church in Ireland, and was received by us in the same capacity. After supplying for some months in the 2d and 3d churches, Philadelphia, both at that time destitute of pastoral services, he was dismissed to the Northern Presbytery. Mr. R. A. Hill, a licentiate of the Northern Presbytery, spent several months in our bounds, and was very usefully employed in preaching. Mr. Woodside also rendered seasonable and valuable services. Mr. George Lamb having completed his course in the Seminary, and delivered with approbation the usual pieces of trial, was licensed at a meeting held in July. He has been employed in supplying the pulpits of Rev. Mr. Crawford, whose feeble health led him to request a short exemption from pastoral duties, and has also preached in Moyamensing and Penn's Manor. Circumstances having prevented his going to the Western Presbytery, according to his original appointment, he is now reported to Synod as still remaining under our jurisdiction. Mr. John G. M'Vickar, having presented very excellent testimonials of his standing and character, as a student of Theology in connexion with the Eastern Reformed Presbyterian Synod of Ireland, after delivering the usual pieces of trial, was licensed on the 29th of September last, and is now referred to Synod for the control of his future movements.

We have at present, under our care, only three students of Theology in regular standing, viz., Messrs. James Pierson, John M'Millan, and W. S. Darragh. There are, however, several other young men, in various stages of preparation, who contemplate being engaged in the work of the ministry. But we still need to reiterate the call so often made for more to devote themselves to this "good work." What higher honour, what more delightful employment could parents desire for their children, could the young seek for themselves, than to be ambassadors of the MIGHTY GOD? Alas, that the church should call so often and so frequently in vain, "Whom shall we send, and who will go for us?"

The subject of domestic missions possesses a deep interest in our own minds, and the minds of the people under our care. The expectations we

had entertained from the plan adopted by Synod at its last meeting, have been entirely disappointed, and we hope Synod may devise some means which may draw out, concentrate, and properly direct the energies of our church on this subject. Were this done, we have no doubt as much might be raised for domestic missions as for foreign, and even more. In view of the duty of liberality for this object, our Presbytery has resolved to endeavour to raise for it \$300, during the coming year.

One of the congregations under our care being desirous to do something for the benefit of that large and neglected class to be found in all parts of our land, which the ministry cannot reach, has been sustaining a Scripture Reader, whose work it is to visit those especially who attend no church, read to them the scriptures, distribute among them Tracts and religious books, hold meetings for prayer with them and for them, and to endeavour, by all suitable means, to bring them under the influence of the church, within the sanctuary, to the fold of Christ. Mr. W. S. Darragh, who has been thus employed by the session of the 1st church, has been labouring for about a year with much assiduity and success. The manner in which this work is conducted is the same as that pursued in the case of the 1st church in New York, of which so full and interesting an account was given in the report of the Northern Presbytery to the last Synod.

The interest which is felt among us in regard to foreign missions has been increased by the visit of Mr. Campbell. The amount which was assigned for the salaries of the missionaries has been paid, and a large sum collected for the outfit of the reinforcement.

Regarding the seminary as the great source from which the church must derive a supply of intelligent and godly ministers, we feel earnestly desirous of its success. The sum which was required from our Presbytery for its support has been paid, and we have resolved to raise, during the coming year, a considerable amount additional, to be used, if not needed for other purposes, in sustaining young men in preparing for the ministry.

With the prayer that the divine blessing may rest upon your deliberations, we respectfully submit our report.

T. W. J. WYLIE, *Moderator.*

Report of the Presbytery of Pittsburgh.

The Pittsburgh Presbytery of the Reformed Presbyterian church, respectfully report to General Synod:

That since the last meeting of Synod, we have met three times in semi-annual sessions, and four times by adjournment. At the meeting held in Pittsburgh, June 24th, 1847, Messrs. David Heron and Alex. M. Watson, having passed the usual trials, were licensed to preach the everlasting gospel under the direction of presbytery. The former of these, Mr. David Heron, is labouring in our vacancies to the satisfaction of the people—but the latter, Mr. Watson, after preaching a few months, returned his license to presbytery, and, at his own request, his name was stricken from our roll.

At the meeting held April 5th, 1848, the melancholy tidings of the death of one of our members, Rev. Gordon T. Ewing, were announced to presbytery, and the following minute adopted on that subject:

“*Whereas*, a paper from Rev. Gordon T. Ewing expressing his desire, that presbytery should take his congregation under its especial care, during his absence on account of his declining health, was received; and

“*Whereas*, it is ascertained that on his way to N. Orleans, he departed this life, on the 21st of March, leaving his congregation vacant, his loving wife a widow, and his children bereaved; and

“*Whereas*, the deceased by his courtesy, his highly cultivated mind, and his devotedness to the service of God in the exercise of his ministry, rendered himself not only eminently useful in the ministry, but also endeared to the members of presbytery, therefore

“*Resolved*, That presbytery have, with deep feelings of sorrow, heard of the death of our beloved brother, Rev. G. T. Ewing, and that we deeply lament the loss we have sustained.

“*Resolved*, That we deeply sympathize with Mrs. Ewing and her children in their sore bereavement.”

At a meeting held at Austintown, Mahoning Co., Ohio, May 25, 1848, Mr. Robert M. Cracken, having previously accepted the call made on him by the Austintown congregation, was, after the usual examinations, according to the good order of the house of God, by prayer and the laying on of the hands of the presbytery, solemnly set apart to the office of the holy ministry, and installed pastor of that congregation.

Mr. William Montgomery, a licentiate from the Monongahela Presbytery, of the Associate Reformed church, was received by us, on certificate of good moral character and regular standing, and is now labouring in our vacancies. Thus, while we are called to sing of judgment in the untimely death of our lamented brother, Rev. G. T. Ewing, and to mourn the departure of Mr. Watson from the work, our hearts are gladdened by the accession of two to our number; one to take part with us in this ministry, and the other to labour as a licentiate.

We have, within our bounds, six settled congregations and ten vacancies, five of which are ripe for settlement and anxiously desirous of obtaining pastors.

We cannot meet the numerous and pressing calls for the dispensation of the word and ordinances, made upon us, and, therefore, earnestly solicit a large amount of supply from Synod. The cry for preaching, coming up from our vacancies, is distressing, and the hearts of many parents are grieved, by seeing their children growing up without the fostering care of the church.

We number now, six ministers, and have two licentiates and three students, Messrs. Samuel Heron, David Gillespie, and James Scott, under our care. Our settled congregations are generally advancing, and we are not without tokens of the Divine presence. The days of thanksgiving and fasting have been observed, and harmony in judgment, and concert in action, prevail among us.

By order of presbytery.

JOSIAH HUTCHMAN, *Clerk.*

Report of the Presbytery of Ohio.

We have very little of general interest to report. The section of the church which has been placed under our inspection, remains much in the same condition as when our last report was given in. Some changes, however, have taken place, which require to be noticed.

At our semi-annual meeting, in October, 1847, the Rev. William Wilson informed the presbytery, that he and his congregation had concluded to change their ecclesiastical relations, by connecting themselves with the other division of the Reformed Presbyterian church, and that their application was then before a presbytery of said body, to that effect. Whereupon the presbytery gave Mr. Wilson a certificate of character and standing. He then withdrew, and his name was stricken from the roll of presbytery. At a subsequent meeting of presbytery, a petition for supply of gospel ordinances was received from the congregation of Cincinnati. The presbytery granted the petition, and have, since that period, been giving them all the aid and encouragement in their power. Our other vacancies are pretty much as at the date of our last report.

Mr. H. M. Kelvey, licentiate, appointed by the Synod for our bounds, from October to February inclusive, prosecuted his studies during a part of the winter under the direction of presbytery, and the remainder of the time preached in our vacancies with acceptance. Mr. M. Cracken fulfilled his synodical appointment in our bounds; but Mr. Watson neither appeared nor assigned to us any reason for the failure.

A call from Garrison congregation, to the Rev. Dr. A. Heron, has been sustained and presented, which call is still under advisement.

At our semi-annual meeting, in April last, a petition from brethren in Xenia, to be organized into a separate congregation was received, and the prayer of the petition granted. Subsequently, a unanimous call on the Rev. H. M'Millan, as pastor of said congregation, has been sustained, but not accepted. Consequently, the congregation of Xenia is added to our list of vacancies.

At a meeting of presbytery, held at Massies' Creek, in June last, Rev. Dr. G. M'Master presented a certificate of good standing and dismissal from the Western Presbytery, and his name was added to the roll of this presbytery.

Mr. G. R. M'Millan, student of theology, has been spending the summer in our bounds, and attending to his studies under the inspection of presbytery. At our present meeting he has delivered a discourse before presbytery, which has been unanimously sustained as evincing diligence and improvement.

Gospel ordinances are generally attended throughout our congregations with commendable regularity, and peace and harmony generally prevail throughout our bounds. But we have cause to lament the prevalence of a spirit of deadness and formality, and to pray for "a time of refreshing from the presence of the Lord."

We cannot close our report, without expressing our fervent desire for union with our sister churches, which has been so long the subject of negotiation; and our hopes that efforts for the attainment of this great object, will yet be brought to a prosperous issue.

We trust, that our necessities will not be overlooked in the distribution of missionary labour. Owing to distance and other causes, our vacancies in Tennessee have been wholly neglected during the present year. And we see no prospect of doing any thing efficient on their behalf ourselves. We would respectfully urge the Synod to take these vacancies under their more immediate care, and make such provision for them as may be practicable. It would be cause of exceeding regret, should these congregations be suffered to wither and die, after having struggled so long and so faithfully in the cause. We would suggest also, that, if at all practicable, some pecuniary aid should be given them from the funds of Synod. It is one of the clearest dictates of Christian obligation that "the strong should assist the weak."

All which is respectfully submitted, by order of presbytery.

ANDREW HERON, *Presb. clerk.*

Report of Western Presbytery.

The Western Presbytery of the Reformed Presbyterian church, would respectfully report to General Synod:

That since they made out their last report, the number of their ministers has diminished by one, the Rev. Gilbert M'Master, D. D., who sought and obtained a certificate and dismissal to the Ohio Presbytery, of which, it is understood, he is now a member. We therefore report, as belonging to the presbytery, six ministers, all of whom have settled charges as pastors; and one licentiate, Mr. Hugh A. M'Kelvey, at present within our bounds and under our direction.

Whilst our ministers have diminished, we have, since our last report, organized another congregation in Rock Prairie, Wisconsin, in an exceedingly promising field of labour. We have thus, eight vacant organized congregations, some of which are ripe for settlement, both able and willing to sustain labourers of the right sort, who would be willing to enter into the harvest; whilst most of the others, with a little fostering care, would soon be in the condition also to sustain their pastors. It need scarcely be added, that with all the labour we are able to give from our own stated charges, the vacancies do not receive a tithe of the preaching which they require. Under such circum-

stances, they barely keep alive; whereas, they would generally, with the dispensation of ordinances and the blessings of the Spirit accompanying, grow and flourish. In the great west there is no famine of bread and of water, but, in many places, there is a famine of the word of the Lord. With respect to the persons appointed at the last meeting of synod to labour under our direction, we make the following statement:

Mr. Sterrett came into our bounds about the time fixed by synod, and laboured for some time in our vacancies, with acceptance; but circumstances having arisen which, it was thought, made it expedient for him to return into the bounds of the Philadelphia Presbytery, with the consent of the standing committee of supplies, he did return, having been with us about half the allotted time. Mr. Hugh A. McKelvey has been with us about all the time for which he was appointed; but owing to indisposition last spring, he was not able to render the full amount of service which, otherwise, he would have done. His labours have been received acceptably in the vacancies. The other person appointed to labour in our bounds, did not make his appearance.

It is hoped that the Synod, at its present meeting, will take the great extent of our territory and the needy condition of our vacancies into consideration, so as to give us our full share of such labourers as may be at their disposal.

The Rev. James R. Campbell, during the months of April and May last, visited all our settled congregations, and one or two of our vacancies. Every where he was kindly received, whilst he succeeded in exciting an interest in the cause of missions, which, it is hoped, may have some permanence. But whilst an interest is stirred up and we are doing so much, not, indeed, more than it is our duty to do, for foreign missions, ought not more to be done for extending our boundaries at home? Can it be wisdom to enlarge the superstructure without proportionably extending and strengthening the foundation? Ought not the church to do as much for enlarging her cause at home, as she is doing for the spread of the gospel abroad? Neglecting to do so, will it not be said to us by our common Lord, "These things ought ye to have done and not to leave the other undone."

Accompanying this report, is a petition from one of our vacant congregations, asking for a stated supply for six months or a year. It speaks for itself. You will give it such consideration and disposal as your wisdom will direct.

That the Head of the Church, by his quickening Spirit, may guide you in your deliberations and decisions, is our earnest prayer.

Respectfully submitted.

JOHN M'MASTER, *Presb. clerk.*

The report of the committee on supplies was taken up, and after amendment, adopted. It is as follows:

Report of the Committee on Supplies.

The committee on supplies beg leave to present the following report to General Synod:

The field of labour brought to the notice of Synod by the reports of the several presbyteries, is very extensive and interesting. Large and numerous vacancies, calling loudly for the dispensation of the Word and ordinances, are found within the bounds of all our presbyteries. New and interesting stations, besides these, are every where springing up, demanding the fostering care of synod. To distribute among all our presbyteries, for the purpose of meeting all these urgent demands, the Synod have seven licentiates, and three ministers without charge.

The committee recommend the following distribution of supplies:

Mr. M'Vickar, to spend the month of November in the Pittsburgh Presbytery.

From the first of December, to the first of May, 1849, in the Ohio Presbytery.

First of May to the first of August, in Western Presbytery.

First of Aug. to the first of November, in Northern Presbytery.

First of Nov. to the first of February, 1850, in Philada. Presbytery.

First of Feb. to the first of May, in Pittsburgh Presbytery.

Mr. M'Alcese, first of Nov. to the first of May, in Northern Presb.

First of May to the first of June, in Philada. Presb.

First of June to the first of August, in Pittsburgh Presb.

First of Aug. to the first of November, in Ohio Presb.

First of Nov. to the first of March, 1850, in Western Presb.

First of March to the first of May, in Pittsburgh Presb.

Mr. Montgomery, first of November to the first of April, 1849, in Pittsburgh Presbytery.

First of April to the first of June, in Ohio Presb.

First of June to the first of October, in Western Presb.

First of Oct. to the first of January, 1850, in Northern Presb.

First of Jan. to the first of May, in Pittsburgh Presb.

Mr. Heron, first of Nov. to the first of April, in Pittsburgh Presb.

First of April to the first of November, in Western Presb.

First of Nov. to the first of January, 1850, in Ohio Presb.

First of Jan. to the first of May, in Pittsburgh Presb.

Mr. M'Kelvey, first of Oct. to the first of January, 1849, in Western Presb.

First of Jan. to the first of April, in Ohio Presb.

First of April to the first of August, 1849, in Pittsburgh Presb.

First of Aug. to the first of December, in Northern Presb.

First of Dec. to the first of February, 1850, in Philada. Presb.

First of March to the first of May, in Ohio Presb.

Mr. Lamb, November, in Northern Presb.

First of December to the first of May, 1849, in Ohio Presb.

First of May to the first of October, in Western Presb.

First of Oct. to the first of December, in Northern Presb.

First of January to the first of March, 1850, in Philada. Presb.

First of March to the first of May, in Pittsburgh Presb.

Rev. Dr. M'Master and *Rev. Dr. Heron*, in the Ohio Presb.

Rev. E. Cooper, from first of November to the first of April, 1849, in Western Presbytery.

From first of April, 1849, to first of April, 1850, in Ohio Presb.

Mr. Faries, to remain under Philadelphia Presb. till next meeting of synod, except August, 1849, which is to be spent in Northern Presb.

The committee recommend to synod, the adoption of the following resolutions:

Resolved, That this Synod imperatively enjoin upon those to whom these appointments are given, punctually to fulfil them.

Resolved, That it is the mind of Synod that a licentiate, in case of a call being made upon him, is not thereby released from the fulfilment of his engagement short of one year after the date of his licensure, in all ordinary cases.

Respectfully submitted.

COMMITTEE.

Resolved, That a committee on the signs of the times, for the present year, be appointed. They are Dr. Black and T. W. J. Wylie.

Resolved, That when Synod adjourn, it be to meet in Xenia, Ohio, on the third Wednesday of May, 1850, at 3 o'clock, P. M., to be opened with a sermon by the Moderator on a subject selected by himself.

The Treasurer of Synod's Board of Foreign Missions presented his report. It was accepted, and referred to an auditing committee. They are Wm. Agnew and Thos. Cumming. (See Appendix, document D.)

The Treasurer of domestic missions presented his report. It was accepted and referred to the same committee. (See Appendix, docum't E.)

The Treasurer of Synod presented his report. It was accepted and referred to the committee on Theological Seminary. (See Appendix, document F.)

The Secretary of the Board of Foreign Missions presented the report of the Board. It was accepted, and laid on the table for further consideration.

Rev. Dr. Wylie presented, in writing, his resignation as professor of theology. It was, on motion, referred to the committee on theological seminary.

Dr. M'Leod resigned his place on the committee on the Theological Seminary, and the Rev. H. M'Millan was appointed in his room.

Rev. Dr. Crawford presented, verbally, his resignation of his professorship in the theological seminary. It was referred to the committee on the Seminary.

Rev. Alex. Clarke addressed the Synod on the subject of his mission in New Brunswick and Nova Scotia. Whereupon, it was, on motion,

Resolved, That Synod have heard the statement of Rev. Alexander Clarke with high satisfaction, that he be requested to furnish the substance of his address for publication in connexion with the minutes,* and that his field of labour be commended to the special attention of the board of domestic missions.

The finance committee reported. Accepted and adopted. It is as follows:

Report of the Finance Committee.

The finance committee beg leave to report, that the following moneys have been paid into their hands for synodical purposes, namely,

Cash from Rev. Robt. A. Hill's congregation,	\$6,50
“ “ A. G. Wylie's “	14,50
“ “ D. J. Patterson's “	4,00
“ “ Dr. M'Leod's “	50,16
“ “ Dr. Wylie's “	28,29
“ “ Wm. Sterrett's “	10,21
“ “ Robt. J. Black's “	10,00
“ “ Dr. Crawford's “	7,25
“ “ J. A. Crawford's “	5,00
“ “ Dr. Black's “	10,00
“ “ A. W. Black's “	8,00
“ “ H. M'Millan's “	15,00
“ “ G. M'Millan's “	8,25
“ “ T. A. Wylie's “	4,00
“ “ S. Wylie's “	22,10
“ “ Dr. M'Master,	5,00
“ Mr. William Cunningham,	10,00
	<hr/>
	\$218,26
Deduct clerk's salary,	50,00
	<hr/>
	\$168,26

The amount left at the disposal of the committee, to be appropriated towards the travelling expenses of the members, is \$168,26. The number of miles travelled by those entitled to draw from the fund, is 8950. The rate, per mile, will be one cent and eighty-eight hundredths.

* See Appendix, document G.

The amount due to each will be as follows:

Rev. Samuel Wylie,	distance 1,300 miles,	\$24,44
“ T. A. Wylie,	“ 1,000 “	18,80
“ Dr. M ^c Master,	“ 850 “	15,98
“ Dr. Heron,	“ 800 “	15,04
“ H. M ^c Millan,	“ 800 “	15,04
“ Alex. Clarke,	“ 800 “	15,04
“ Dr. Black,	“ 400 “	7,52
“ A. W. Black,	“ 400 “	7,52
“ R. A. Hill,	“ 350 “	6,58
“ J. A. Crawford,	“ 250 “	4,70
“ A. G. Wylie,	“ 170 “	3,20
“ Dr. Wylie,	“ 100 “	1,88
“ Dr. Crawford,	“ 100 “	1,88
“ T. W. J. Wylie,	“ 100 “	1,88
“ R. J. Black,	“ 100 “	1,88
“ Wm. Sterrett,	“ 100 “	1,88
Mr. R. Reed,	“ 800 “	15,04
“ D. Stewart,	“ 170 “	3,19
“ Wm. Cunningham,	“ 160 “	3,01
“ William Hogg,	“ 100 “	1,88
“ Robert Guy,	“ 100 “	1,88
Total 8950		\$168,26

All which the committee are now prepared to pay.

Respectfully submitted by the

COMMITTEE.

The Rev. Dr. Crawford asked and received leave of absence for the remainder of the session.

Synod then adjourned, Dr. M^cLeod concluding by prayer.

Same place, Oct. 17, 10 o'clock, A.M.

Synod met, and was opened by prayer. Same members present as before, with the exception of Dr. Crawford.

The minutes of the last meeting were read and approved.

Proceeded to the devotional services according to the order, as follows:

1. Rev. Dr. M^cMaster to preside, and commence by singing the praise of God.

2. Prayer, by Rev. Alex. Clarke.

3. Reading the scriptures, by Rev. A. W. Black.

4. Prayer, by Rev. Hugh M^cMillan.

5. Singing and benediction, by Prof. T. A. Wylie.

Devotional services being ended, the Moderator resumed the chair.

On motion of Rev. Dr. M^cLeod, it was

Resolved, That a committee be appointed to bring in a minute on the subject of the lamented death of Rev. Gordon T. Ewing, the moderator of last synod.

Drs. M^cLeod and M^cMaster were appointed.

Dr. M^cLeod presented a report on the Seminary. It was accepted, and referred to the committee on Theological Seminary. It is as follows:

Report on Seminary.

The undersigned, one of the superintendents of the Theological Seminary, respectfully reports to General Synod, that at the period prescribed in the con-

stitution, he repaired to the city of Philadelphia, to attend the appointed meeting of the board. He regretted to find, that from a variety of adverse circumstances, none of the other members were present. No quorum attending, a formal transaction of business did not take place.

Meeting with the professors, however, the students were examined; ten public discourses were heard, and the students distributed to their appropriate classes.

During the past year, thirteen students, two of whom belonged to other denominations, were in attendance in the seminary, and they all gave evidence of talent of a high order, knowledge, and piety, most satisfactory to their instructors.

Of the students in regular connexion with the church and seminary, the following were of the first year:—W. S. Darragh, G. R. M'Millan, J. M'Millan; of the second year, James Pierson; of the third year, R. A. Hill, H. Gordon, J. S. Woodside, G. Lamb. All these students have been advanced to the next higher class, or recommended for licensure to their respective presbyteries.

The undersigned regretted to find that the small sum assigned by synod to the senior professor, as an acknowledgment for his services, had not been paid. It is earnestly recommended to synod, to enjoin on the presbyteries to send forward their quotas, and to be careful hereafter to admit no deficit in their accounts.

The undersigned most earnestly recommends to the General Synod, that they foster this school of the prophets, as one of the hopes of the church. Let it be sustained, for a blessing is in it. Respectfully submitted.

JOHN N. M'LEOD.

The committee on the signs of the times presented their report. It was accepted and adopted. It is as follows:

Report of the Committee on the Signs of the Times.

CAUSES OF FASTING.—Christians are required to be wise markers of Divine providence. Sometimes God makes the church prosperous, and turns the wilderness into a standing water, and dry ground into water springs. Again, they are diminished, and brought low through oppression, affliction, and sorrow. Whoso is wise, and will observe these things, even they shall understand the loving-kindness of the Lord. In the day of prosperity be glad, but in the day of adversity consider. According to the aspects of Divine providence, the church is bound to conduct herself, and direct her operations. In the day of mourning, it becomes her to be clothed in sackcloth, and humble herself at the footstool of the throne of God, confessing her sin with fasting, weeping, and mourning. Such, in many respects, is the day in which we live. There appears, however, to be little difference in the aspect of providence this year from the last, in relation to causes of fasting. To them therefore we refer.

CAUSES OF THANKSGIVING.

Amidst the numerous causes of mourning with which we are encompassed, we have still great ground of thankfulness. God has verified his promise unto us, "in the evening time it shall be light." "Grace hath been showed from the Lord our God to leave us a remnant to escape, and give us a nail in his holy place." We enjoy peace, and plenty, and health, in all our borders, when wars, and famine, and pestilence are desolating many other nations of the earth. We enjoy the gospel and gospel ordinances, while so many others have no vision, and are perishing in the darkness of paganism. God has greatly increased, in the past season, the number of our ministers. We are widely extended over a large portion of this great republic. There is a good report of our mission in Northern India, and a prospect of soon filling up the ranks that had been broken. The signs of the times are more favourable than for-

merly, in relation to the cause of freedom, and the abolition of slavery. Anti-christ, in the old world, is beginning to give signs of an approaching dissolution. The overturning proclaimed in ancient prophecy, begins to manifest itself among the nations devoted to destruction. "I will overturn, overturn, overturn it, and it shall be no more, until he come whose right it is, and I will give it him." Light is breaking forth in heathen lands. The word of God is translated into many languages, and the glad tidings of salvation are carried to many who dwell in the region and shadow of death. From the uttermost parts of the earth we have heard songs. Let us rejoice with thanksgivings.

The committee, therefore, recommend that the fourth Thursday of November next be observed as a day of thanksgiving, and the fourth Thursday of February, 1849, as a day of fasting by all under the care of this synod.

Submitted by

THE COMMITTEE.

The committee on Christian union presented their report. It was accepted and adopted. It is as follows:

Conference on Union.

The committee to whom was referred the subject of "Christian Union," as recommended by the General Assembly of the Presbyterian church of 1847, and brought before us in pursuance of the action of a conference of members of several churches, held at the Mission Rooms of the Presbyterian church, in the city of New York, on the 4th and 5th of October, 1848, respectfully

Report:

That the subject of "Christian Union," dear to the heart of every friend of God and lover of Zion, is by us judged to be worthy of the most serious, deliberate, and earnest consideration. The caution, indicated in the recommendation of the General Assembly, meets our approbation. It is not a hasty and thoughtless amalgamation of distinct denominations that is proposed, but a candid inquiry, how those ecclesiastical bodies who, on the subject of doctrine, worship, principles and forms of order, occupy, in common, a very extensive ecclesiastical platform, may more nearly and efficiently concur in action for the extension and application of their common faith. Cordially approving of the proposal, your committee recommend to synod the adoption of the following resolutions:

Resolved, 1st, That Synod approve of the action of those ministers of the Reformed Presbyterian church, who met in the conference on the 2d and 3d inst., in the city of New York, in taking a seat with the brethren of the other churches in that conference.—(See Appendix, Document H.)

Resolved, 2d, That this Synod appoint three members, two ministers and one ruling elder, to meet such delegates of other churches, as may be commissioned to assemble in New York, on the second Tuesday of April next, in pursuance of the recommendation above referred to.

Resolved, 3d, That, confiding in the intelligence and fidelity of the delegates now appointed, that no measure inconsistent with the authorized profession of this church, will, in said conference, be approved of by them, Synod deem it unnecessary to furnish them with any specific instructions, as to the matters which may come before them. All of which is respectfully submitted, by the

COMMITTEE.

Synod then proceeded to the appointment of the delegates to the conference, by vote. Rev. Dr. McLeod, Dr. Black, and Mr. Thomas Cumming, ruling elder, were chosen unanimously. Rev. A. G. Wylie to be alternate to Dr. Black.

Rev. H. McMillan offered the following resolutions, which were seconded. Proceeded to their consideration separately. The first reso-

lution was adopted, and Rev. Dr. M'Master and H. M'Millan appointed the committee which it contemplates.

The second resolution was lost. They are as follows:

1. *Resolved*, That in accordance with the action of synod, at its last meeting in Pittsburgh, on the subject of Christian union, a committee of two be appointed to report at the next meeting of synod, "a statement of the ground on which the whole church of God, may be, and ought to be, united in one organic body."

2. *Resolved*, That ——— be appointed, as delegates to maintain a friendly correspondence with other churches, on the subject of church union, in whatever way may be agreed upon as most advisable.

Resolved, That the domestic missionaries who have accounts against the treasury, present them to the board of domestic missions, to be liquidated as soon as possible.

Proceeded to the consideration of the Book of Discipline.

Articles fourth, fifth, and sixth, of section third, chapter fourth, and the whole of chapter second were adopted.

When, on motion, synod adjourned to meet in the lecture room of Prince street church, at 7 o'clock, P. M., Rev. A. W. Black concluding by prayer.

} Lecture room, Prince st. church,
} 7 o'clock, P. M.

Synod met, and was opened by prayer. Same members present as before.

The minutes of the last meeting were read and approved.

Proceeded to the consideration of the Book of Discipline. All the remaining chapters being read, were adopted.

It was moved and seconded that the book, as now considered and approved in detail, be adopted as a whole.

Resolved, That a member be called upon to address the throne of grace. Rev. Dr. Wylie offered prayer. The roll was called, and each member proceeded to vote, adopt or not adopt. Whereupon, the Moderator declared that the whole document was adopted by synod, as "the Book of Discipline of the Reformed Presbyterian Church in North America."

Resolved, That a fourth edition of the "Declaration and Testimony" be published, and that the "Book of Discipline" be appended to it.

Resolved, That the Stated Clerk and Treasurer of Synod be a committee to carry this resolution into effect, in such way as they may deem most expedient, and without any unnecessary delay.

Resolved, That a committee (consisting of Dr. M'Leod and Rev. A. G. Wylie) be appointed to prepare a system of rules for judicatories, and forms of order, to be reported to the next meeting of Synod.

The special committee on the preparation of a minute, respecting the death of Rev. G. T. Ewing, reported. The reported minute was adopted. It is as follows:

Death of Rev. Gordon T. Ewing.

Whereas God, in his providence, has been pleased to remove by death, the Rev. Gordon T. Ewing, late Moderator of this Synod;—and, whereas, it is becoming the members of synod to recognise the Divine hand in the dispensation, and to make the proper improvement of it to their own spiritual benefit, therefore

Resolved, That in the death of our late respected friend and brother, the church has been deprived of a faithful, diligent, and successful minister, his family of a tender husband and father, and general society of an exemplary and influential member.

Resolved, That Synod receive in humility the divine admonition which is tendered to them, in the removal of their late moderator, and that they will endeavour to draw from it a stimulus to greater effort after personal holiness, and higher exertions in the discharge of public and official duty.

Resolved, That Synod condole with the afflicted family and congregation of the deceased, and most affectionately commend them to the abiding sympathies of the great High Priest of the Christian profession.

Resolved, That the stated clerk be instructed to transmit a copy of the above resolutions to the family of the late moderator.

The committee on the theological seminary reported. Report was adopted. It is as follows:

Report of the Committee on the Theological Seminary.

The committee to whom were referred the resignations of Drs. Wylie and Crawford, as professors in the Theological Seminary, respectfully report, that they have had the same under consideration, and, considering the necessity of preserving the seminary, for the training of the young men, now looking to the office of the ministry, and considering also, that these resignations are unexpected, on the part of synod, and, consequently, that synod is not in a state of preparation to dispense with their services, would recommend to synod not to accept their resignations. To accept their resignations, under existing circumstances, would involve the present dissolution or suspension of our seminary, and would have, we apprehend, most deleterious results on the best interests of our church. Under this view of the case, we trust these venerable brethren, and especially our aged father, Dr. Wylie, will not urge their resignations for the present, but consent to give their services until synod will be in a better condition of supplying their places, than at the present time. We would further add, that, inasmuch as the services of the department in which Dr. Crawford acts, are not of the same vital nature as those of the department of Dr. Wylie, and can be dispensed with, for a term, with less injury to the students, the committee would not urge the continuance of the services of Dr. Crawford, if found by him to be incompatible with his other numerous and important duties.

In reference to the report of the Superintendent, the committee report the following resolutions:

1. That the report of Dr. M'Leod (one of the Superintendents) be adopted.
2. That the presbyteries found delinquent in contributing the amount assigned them for the support of the seminary, be and they hereby are enjoined to forward forthwith the sums due to the treasurer of synod, now in advance, for the same.
3. And, whereas, it is understood that it is not always practicable for all the students of theology, especially those in the west, to attend the seminary in Philadelphia, it is the mind of Synod, that students so situated, prosecute their studies under the care of their respective presbyteries.

Resolved, That Rev. Dr. Black be requested, if possible, to spend the time of the session of the seminary, the coming season, in Philadelphia, and cooperate with the senior professor in discharging the duties of his department.

All which is respectfully submitted.

THE COMMITTEE.

Rev. Dr. Wylie was earnestly requested by synod to recall his resignation as professor of theology. He consented to do so.

The committee on domestic missions presented their report. It was accepted, and, after amendment, adopted.

(See document B in Appendix.)

The report of the Board of Foreign Missions was taken up for consideration.

(See document C in Appendix.)

In connexion with the adoption of the report of the board of foreign missions, the following resolutions were presented and adopted:

On motion of Rev. H. M'Millan, it was

Resolved, That it is the mind of this synod, that all money contributed by the members of the church, and others, for missionary purposes, be exclusively applied to the objects for which they were contributed; and further, that the strictest economy should be observed in the administration of the business of the board.

On motion of Rev. Dr. Wylie, it was further

Resolved, That this synod highly approve of the course of Rev. R. A. Hill, in not proceeding to India as a foreign missionary, but in continuing in the service of the church at home.

Resolved, That the thanks of synod be presented to the Christian brethren of this city, for their hospitalities so kindly tendered to the members during the present sessions.

Resolved, That the thanks of synod be tendered to Rev. Dr. M'Master, for his sermon preached at the opening of the present session, and that he be requested to prepare a copy of it for publication.

Resolved, That the thanks of synod be tendered to the elders and trustees of the church in Waverly Place, for the use of their house of worship, during the present session.

Proceeded to the appointment of the Board of Foreign and Domestic Missions.

Rev. Dr. M'Leod and Mr. Wm. Agnew declined serving, and were excused by synod. The members of the board are as follows:

Rev. Dr. Wylie, Dr. Black, Dr. M'Master, Dr. Crawford, Dr. Heron, Rev. H. M'Millan, Alex. Clarke, John M'Master, T. A. Wylie, R. J. Black, W. Sterrett, D. J. Patterson, J. Agnew Crawford, A. G. Wylie, A. W. Black, T. W. J. Wylie, ministers; and Thos. Cumming, James N. Gifford, Wm. Matthews, T. M'Burney, George H. Stuart, Robert Guy, Jos. Fleming, J. M'Kendrick, W. Montgomery, J. M'Coy, Daniel M'Millan, ruling elders.

Mr. G. H. Stuart was re-appointed Treasurer of Synod.

Proceeded to the appointment of the Board of Superintendents of the theological seminary: they are, Rev. Dr. Black, Dr. M'Master, Dr. M'Leod, H. M'Millan, A. G. Wylie, J. Agnew Crawford, and R. J. Black.

The minutes of the present session were read throughout, and approved.

The stated clerk was directed to publish extracts of the minutes in the Banner of the Covenant, together with as many extra copies as might be deemed expedient. Whereupon, it was

Resolved, That synod do now adjourn to meet at the time and place appointed.

Adjourned, after prayer by the moderator, singing the 133d Psalm, and receiving the apostolic benediction.

Signed,

ANDREW HERON, *Moderator*.

JOHN NIEL M'LEOD, *Stated Clerk*.

New York, October 17, 1848.

APPENDIX.

(Document A.)

To the Rev. John N. McLeod, D. D., Stated Clerk of the General Synod of the Reformed Presbyterian Church, in North America.

Rev. and Dear Sir:

At a meeting this day of the committee, appointed May 28, 1847, by the General Assembly of the Presbyterian church, in the United States of America, on the subject of Christian union, it was

Resolved, That a copy of the report and resolutions of the General Assembly on Christian union, be sent to the supreme ecclesiastical courts of the bodies named therein, with a request and invitation to them to send delegates to a conference, to be held at the mission house, in the city of New York, on the first Monday of October next, for the purpose of mutual consideration of the matters indicated in the report aforesaid.

In conformity with the above resolution, I enclose herewith, a copy of the minutes adopted by the assembly on the subject aforesaid; and respectfully request, that you will lay this communication before your synod at the approaching annual meeting. Very respectfully,

W. D. SNODGRASS, *Sec. Gen. Assembly's Com.*

New York, February 14, 1848.

ASSEMBLY'S ACTION ON UNION.

"The committee to whom were referred the memorials of the Synods of Pittsburgh, Wheeling, and Virginia, reported as follows, namely,

"It is well known that the manifestation of unity among evangelical churches, occupies a distinguished place in the public mind at the present time. Nor can it be alleged that it does not deserve the consideration which it has received.

"The convention held last year in London, has greatly increased the attention given to the subject among protestants, and it is hoped the results of that meeting may be extensively and permanently beneficial. If real Christians, who hold fast the form of sound words, and feel the purifying and elevating power of truth, shall perceive more clearly their substantial agreement, love one another more fervently, and co-operate in the work of faith and labour of love more extensively and zealously, the advantage to the common cause of Christianity would be real and great.

"We would by no means call in question the organization or operation of that branch of the Christian alliance which has been constituted in our country, but would rather bid those brethren God speed in their legitimate efforts, and pray that the blessing of the God of peace may abide with them always. Still it may be inquired whether some plan of intercourse and combined effort may not be adopted, which may specifically include those denominations who hold the same faith, and the same ecclesiastical form of government and discipline, substantially and truly, which we hold, that may greatly contribute to more intimate and complete unity in sentiment, affection, and practice. If this can be accomplished in a considerable degree, in a way which will be safe, and will not interfere at all with denominational peculiarities and interests, it will be much gain to the cause of truth and charity. And thus not only entire apostacy from true Christianity in its various forms, but errors of dangerous tendency may be more effectually resisted, and the system of salvation by free and sovereign grace, may be more favourably exhibited before the Christian public.

"It is to be particularly observed, however, that such a plan should bear no

relation whatever to the amalgamation of those denominations who may be willing to enter into such an arrangement. This must be left to each in its own ecclesiastical capacity. Only that unity which is consistent with denominational distinction, should be embraced in the plan.

"It is therefore respectfully recommended that the General Assembly offer for consideration to the supreme judicatories of those denominations in the United States, who are of the description above mentioned, the following propositions:

"1. The General Assembly of the Presbyterian church, the Synods of the Associate Reformed Presbyterian church, of the Reformed Presbyterian church, the Associate Presbyterian church, the Reformed Dutch Protestant church, and the German Reformed church, will appoint both ministerial and lay delegates in such numbers as they shall deem proper to meet in conference at such time and place as shall be hereafter designated, and consult and decide respecting a suitable plan of intercourse, as may be deemed profitable and safe.

"2. The results of this conference shall be reported to the several bodies, and shall be regarded as adopted only so far as they shall be approved by each body.

"3. This assembly will appoint a committee who shall have the charge of previous arrangements, so far as we are concerned, and shall be authorized to communicate with the bodies above named, and confer with any committee by them appointed.

"This report was unanimously adopted." Very respectfully,

WM. D. SNODGRASS

Sec. of the Com. of the General Assembly.

(Document B.)

Report of the Special Committee on Domestic Missions.

The committee on Domestic Missions respectfully report, that the subject which has been referred to their consideration, is one which possesses great importance, and in which our entire church appears to feel a deep interest. Impressed with the duty of sustaining domestic missionary efforts, synod has adopted several different plans, but they have not been followed with the measure of success which was desired and expected. Without entering into any examination of their defects, the committee respectfully present to synod the following suggestions, as calculated to accomplish the object in view. They recommend

1. That the direction of domestic missions be entrusted to the board of missions, already established by synod, which is hereby authorized and directed to receive such contributions as may be made for this purpose. Care being taken that the sums received for foreign and domestic missions are kept distinct, and disbursed only according to the direction of the donors.

2. That the presbyterial treasurers give to the board an account of their receipts and expenditures, for domestic missions, in order that it may be incorporated with the general report, and thus a view may be obtained of whatever is done for this object by every part of the church.

3. That domestic missionaries keep an account of any money which they may receive in acknowledgment of their public or official services, and render a statement thereof to the board, with liberty to draw for any deficit which may exist, when less than the sum allowed by synod.

4. That domestic missionaries, in addition to their reports to the presbyteries with which they may be from time to time connected, furnish regular reports to the board, from which such statements as are of general interest may be selected for publication.

5. That domestic missionaries labour, as heretofore, under the direction of the presbyteries to which they may belong, and according to the arrangements

made by the committee of supplies, at each meeting of synod. Such modifications and subsequent arrangements as may be rendered necessary, being made by the board with the advice and concurrence of presbyteries.

6. That the board be directed to collect as accurate information as possible, in regard to the domestic missionary field, throughout the whole church, and lay the same before our people, with an earnest appeal to them to contribute, as God has prospered them for its benefit, and with such suggestions as experience and observation may suggest, as calculated to promote the interest of this cause.

7. That any present deficit in the sum, allowed by synod to licentiates for their services, be paid from the funds of the presbyteries where they have been labouring, as far as possible, and the remainder from the funds at the disposal of the board.

8. That the board be directed to meet at least one day before the meeting of synod, to give special attention to the business intrusted to their care, and prepare a report of their transactions.

9. That the board be directed to select St. Louis and Cincinnati, as missionary stations.

In submitting these suggestions, your committee are aware that the success of any plan, depends mainly on the judgment and energy with which it is prosecuted, and should synod adopt the arrangements herewith presented, they trust, that they may be so carried into operation, as that our whole church will cordially and zealously unite in this great work.

(Document C.)

Report of Board of Missions to General Synod.

When our last report was presented, Mr. Campbell, our senior missionary, had left the scene of his labours in India, and, during the sessions of Synod, information was received that he had arrived in England. He remained in Great Britain and Ireland until near the end of September, being actively engaged in visiting the Reformed Presbyterian churches in both islands, and laying before them, particularly, the condition of India. He was every where received with great kindness, and we have reason to believe that much benefit has resulted from his efforts. By our brethren of the Eastern Reformed Presbyterian Synod, he was especially made welcome, as will be seen by a reference to their minutes.

Having arrived in this country on the 26th of October last, Mr. Campbell shortly after had an opportunity of meeting with the executive committee, and expressing his views and wishes. It appeared that he was earnestly desirous to return to India, and that he expected that the health of Mrs. Campbell, on account of which he had returned to the United States, would render it proper for him to do so. With his convictions of propriety and duty on this subject, the committee felt bound to acquiesce, although it had been expected, when our last report was presented, that he would probably remain in this country. It was under this impression that the Board entertained the application made by the two brethren whose offer to go to India was laid before the last Synod, although it is probable that they would not, in any case, have wished to assume the responsibility of refusing their offer. As the proposition, however, was before the church, it was considered best to make the effort to send out and sustain both of them. For this purpose Mr. Campbell was appointed to act as the agent of the board while in this country, presenting the subject to the churches as far as he could visit them, and collecting as much as they might be willing to contribute. The committee felt that they could make no engagements with the candidates themselves, nor come to any decision in regard to ultimate action until it should be ascertained whether or not the churches were able and willing to send out and sustain these brethren.

Mr. Campbell having at length returned from his tour, and made his report, it was considered that the time for a decision, whether or not it was proper to send them out, had arrived. It was thought proper first to ascertain what were the views of the brethren themselves, who as yet had received no definite answer to their application. Mr. Hill, impressed with the belief that the church would not be willing to sustain more than one additional missionary, resolved to remain at home for the present. Mr. Woodside was ready to go out immediately with Mr. Campbell. Arrangements were made with as much rapidity as possible for the embarkation of the brethren with their families. At the request of the Executive Committee, the Philadelphia Presbytery, under whose care he was at the time, ordained Mr. Woodside to the office of the ministry, and shortly after, both the missionary brethren received their instructions from the committee, and were publicly designated and commissioned to the great work of evangelizing the heathen. Their embarkation took place at Boston on the 2d of August last, in circumstances of a most impressive and affecting character. They are now, in all probability, on the great ocean, far on their journey towards their desired haven. Our prayer is, that He who ruleth in the raging of the seas, and when the winds thereof roar, stilleth them, may have them in his holy keeping, may preserve them from all danger and evil, may make them useful on their voyage, and may in due time permit them to labour long and successfully among the heathen.

It is proper for us, in this connexion, to express our high approbation of the services of our beloved missionary, Mr. Campbell. While with us he was indefatigable in his labours, and his untiring, zealous, judicious efforts produced great good not only to the holy cause to which he was devoted, but to the interests of religion in general. While in this country he travelled in the service of the board, nearly 5000 miles, preached and lectured on missions more than 70 times, and obtained subscriptions amounting to near \$5000. Although his services on the foreign field were, for a time, withdrawn, we have reason to believe the result will be additional benefit, in a direct manner, to the heathen. His own increased vigour, his wife's restored health, the valuable coadjutor by whom he is accompanied, all lead us to hope that the future history of the mission will show that the temporary withdrawal of Mr. Campbell has been for great good.

In order to increase the usefulness of the mission, as much of the funds under the control of the board, as could be properly appropriated to this object, was expended in the purchase of apparatus, books, &c. In the situation where they are placed, where institutions of learning have no existence, and books are so difficult to be procured, it is very useful, if not indispensable, that they be provided with such means of information and instruction.

During Mr. Campbell's absence, Mr. Caldwell has taken charge of the station at Saharanpur, having returned to that place from Merath. We are glad to be able to state that the mission appears to be in a very prosperous condition. Mr. Caldwell labours with great assiduity and zeal, and the divine blessing appears to rest upon his efforts. Left alone, as regards the companionship of any from a Christian land, he has borne, himself, the burden and heat of the day. May the seed which he has sown or which he yet may scatter in that now barren wilderness, produce an abundant harvest, and may he himself receive at last a crown of glory from the great and exalted King of Zion. Mr. Caldwell's last annual report is here subjoined, as presenting the most satisfactory information of the present state of the mission.

With the earnest prayer that the action of Synod in regard to this important work may be directed by the great Head of the church, and may be followed by His blessing, we submit our report. By order of the Board,

T. W. J. WYLIE, *Cor. Sec'y.*

Eleventh Annual Report of Missionary operations at Saharanpur, for the year ending 31st Oct. 1847.

Missionaries—Rev. J. Caldwell, Mrs. Caldwell. Catechists—J. Coleman, John Gabriel, Theodore Wylie.

Since my arrival here last autumn, I have been, in some degree, diligent in endeavouring to make known the Saviour to the heathen, but now have to exclaim, to whom amongst this people, during the past year, has the arm of the Lord been revealed?

The detailed account of my labours is as follows:—

Bazar Preaching.—My bazar labours have been the same as those of last year. While I have had much less satisfaction in this department than at Merath, still something I trust has been effected. In some instances, at least, a manifest degree of attention was paid to the truths of the gospel. With my assistants in this department I have reason to be satisfied, especially with John Coleman, who, although considerably enfeebled by age, still evinces a praiseworthy zeal and earnestness in his Master's service.

Melas.—The fair at Hardwar I attended as usual, where, though the labours of the other brethren and myself consisted less in regular preaching than in former years, yet some thousands heard from our lips the glad tidings of salvation through Jesus the Saviour. The annual meeting this year will prevent my attendance at the very important fair at Ghurmookteswar, where so much may be accomplished, especially in preaching the gospel.

English and Urdu Preaching.—From the time of my return from the annual meeting in December, till the Hardwar fair, I conducted two services in Urdu each week, one on the Sabbath forenoon, and the other on Wednesday afternoon. The afternoon of each Sabbath, until the period just mentioned, was devoted to English service; and on Wednesday evenings a prayer meeting was held in English. After the Hardwar fair, the afternoon of the first Sabbath of each month, only, was occupied with English, by which arrangement I was enabled to preach three times a week in Hindustani. The English service on Sabbath was generally attended by a majority of the residents at this station, but the Wednesday evening meetings, except with regard to a few, seemed to have no attractions for them. The exercises in Urdu were attended generally by but few besides the native brethren here. At the Urdu service, on Sabbath, it has been my practice to lecture consecutively on Matthew's gospel. At the Wednesday evening service, in this language, I have, for the most part, preached on miscellaneous subjects.

Bible Class.—In addition to the other services in Urdu, I commenced, a few months ago, a Bible class in that language, which I have held once a week for the benefit of the native brethren, and which has been found, thus far, highly interesting. The plan adopted has been to take the Union Questions as a guide and translate each lesson into Urdu, as required.

Itinerations.—No other itinerating has been performed by me the last year than what was accomplished while travelling from Merath, at the time of removing from that station, going to the Ghurmookteswar fair and returning, and going to the annual meeting, and on the way back. These journeys, however, afforded abundant opportunities for proclaiming the gospel, which were in almost every instance embraced for that purpose, and thus some who had previously heard of a Saviour were once more urged to receive him, and many more heard, for the first time, the glad news of salvation,

English School.—The English school has, on the whole, been more flourishing than it seems to have been in some former years. By one year's report of this station it appears that the number of lads in attendance, besides those of the orphan school, was but nine. The past year the names on the roll have been upwards of forty, and there has been a general attendance daily, of about thirty. A large majority of the scholars, however, are but little advanced, merely commencing an English education. Indeed the exercises of the first

class are quite primary, being reading and translating English, English Grammar, and the first rules of Arithmetic. John Coleman, and three of the young men of the former orphan institution have acted as teachers, and I have, myself, generally spent some two hours, daily, in that capacity. Longer time should have been devoted daily to this duty, had the state of the school required it, and other important duties permitted.

Orphan Institution.—In April last, an opportunity was afforded for carrying into effect the resolution of the mission at its last meeting, respecting the re-organizing of the Boys' Orphan School at Saharanpur. Six orphan boys of different ages, from six to twelve years, were sent to our mission by the British Resident at Lahore. These lads are the children of camp followers that accompanied the British army in the disastrous Caubul campaign, and who perished either by the rigorous climate of Afghanistan, or by its savage inhabitants. The mission, at its last meeting, having determined to reorganize this institution on the manual labour system, no time was lost, after the arrival of the lads, in carrying out this resolution also. It was considered most advisable that the experiment should be made with the business of making household furniture. The most skilful native workman, therefore, in this line that could be found at Saharanpur, and one who has had a number of years' experience in this kind of work, was engaged to superintend their training. Four, only, of the six were large enough to be set to work. Suitable tools were provided for them, which they have already learned to use with some expertness. Some timber of an excellent quality has been procured, and which will be fit for working up by the time the lads are prepared to commence making articles of furniture. The time allotted them for labour each day is about two hours in the morning, and about the same time in the evening. Their progress thus far has been quite satisfactory. In the mean time their education has by no means been neglected. They have spent about three hours, daily, under the tuition of one of the young men of the former Orphan Institution. And in this particular, too, the progress of most of them is encouraging. They are taught Urdu in the Persian character, which, although the language of their parents is almost a foreign tongue to them, they having learned Persian, only, in Afghanistan, which they still use among themselves with great fluency. Some of them are already able to read short sentences in Urdu with facility. It is quite probable that their progress in education will be but little, if in any degree impeded by their manual labour.

Inquirers.—The pundit, mentioned in my last report, came with me to Saharanpur, where he continued, as in Merath, to study the scriptures, and read to me daily for about two-thirds of the year. Some three or four months ago he took leave for a short time to visit some relations a few days' journey from Saharanpur. His stay being much longer than I expected, I had given up all hope of his returning. A few days ago, however, I received a letter from him, in which he informs me that sickness has been the cause of his detention, and that he is anxious to return, which I hope he will do. A respectable zamindar, in the neighbourhood of Saharanpur, has, for more than a year past, manifested considerable interest in the gospel. His attention was first turned to the study of Christianity by an event which he supposed was an answer to his prayers to the Christian's Lord. His prayer was to Jesus for an heir to his estate. A son was born, and was called "Isá bakhsh," the gift of Jesus; and ever since he has considered himself, in some respect, a follower of Jesus. The catechists have gone a few times to his village to make known to him the doctrines of Christianity, and have, in each instance, met with a most cordial reception, and have obtained, not only from him, but almost all his village, a favourable audience for the things which belong to their salvation. It was my intention to visit him in his village as soon as the weather would admit of my travelling, but circumstances have hitherto prevented me. I trust that immediately after my return from the annual meeting, I will be able to spend a day or two there in expounding the scripture.

Daily Employments.—Besides the labours already mentioned, I have spent a portion of each day in the study and translation of the native languages. Two of the youths of the former Orphan Institution have daily read to me, for correction, translations of short portions of M'Dowell's "Bible Class Manual." John Gabriel, one of the catechists, has occasionally read to me, for the same purpose, an essay in Urdu, on some subject in Theology. Besides our regular family worship in English, in the morning, and in Urdu, in the evening, I have daily had an exercise with the orphan boys for religious instruction. This consists in reading a portion of scripture on which they are required to answer a few simple questions, and then offering a short prayer on their behalf.

Conclusion.—In taking a retrospect of the past year, while I feel that I ought to mourn over my unfaithfulness, as usual, yet there is cause of gratitude to God that even a little has been accomplished at this station for the establishing of the Redeemer's kingdom.

(Document D.)

Report of the Treasurer of the Board of Foreign Missions.

1847.

RECEIPTS.

May, To balance in treasury, per last annual report, - - - - \$927 76

SUPPORT OF REV. J. R. CAMPBELL.

Northern Presbytery.

To cash from Rev. Dr. M'Leod's congregation, - - - \$200 00
 " " A. G. Wylie's congregation, - - - 40 00
 " Mr. William Cunningham, - - - 10 00

250 00

Philadelphia Presbytery.

" Rev. Dr. Wylie's congregation, - - - 200 00
 " " Wm. Sterrett's " - - - 20 00
 " " R. J. Black's " - - - 15 00
 " " J. A. Crawford's " - - - 47 00
 " members of presbytery, - - - 8 00
 " a friend at Fairmount, - - - 10 00

300 00 550 00

SUPPORT OF REV. JOSEPH CALDWELL.

Pittsburgh Presbytery.

" Rev. T. C. Guthrie's congregation, - - - 55 00
 " " J. Hutchman's " - - - 20 00

75 00

Ohio Presbytery.

" Mr. J. C. M'Millan, treasurer, - - - 68 00

Western Presbytery.

" Rev. John M'Master's congregation, - - - 36 50
 " " Samuel Wylie's " - - - 57 50
 " Walnut Hill " - - - 9 00
 " J. Hemphill, - - - 4 00
 " Rev. T. A. Wylie's congregation, - - - 10 00

117 00 260 00

Outfit of Missionaries.

" collected by Rev. Jas. R. Campbell,
 in bounds of Northern Presbytery, 962 88
 " " " Philadelphia Presb., 1844 94
 " " " Pittsburgh Presb., 1021 66
 " " " Ohio Presbytery, 350 00
 " " " Western Presbytery, 477 39
 " from friends in Ireland and England, - 43 12

4698 99

Banner of the Covenant.

" for 1846 and 1847, \$333—do. for 1848, \$396, - - - 729 00

Miscellaneous.

	for native assistant fund, - - - -	1 50
"	for scholarship account, - - - -	25 00

26 50

Total, - - - \$7191 25

1847.

PAYMENTS.

Salary of Rev. J. R. Campbell.

By cash paid Gen. Assembly's Board, in full for 1847,	- - -	\$600 00
" " " " 1848, - - -	- - -	600 00

1200 00

Salary of Rev. Joseph Caldwell.

" Gen. Assembly's Board, balance for 1847,	- - -	350 00
" " " in full for 1848, - - -	- - -	600 00

950 00

Outfit Account.

" for sundry apparatus,* books, &c., for Saharanpur station,	889 35
" for passages to Calcutta, &c., - - -	2450 00
" Rev. J. R. Campbell's travelling expenses, while acting as agent of the Board in Great Britain, Ireland, and the United States, - - -	22 23
" for loss on broken bank notes, and discount on uncurrent funds, - - -	44 30

3705 97

Banner of the Covenant.

" for 1847, - - -	- - -	275 83
1848. " for 1848, to October number inclusive, - - -	- - -	437 97

713 85

October 16, Balance in the treasurer's hands, - - - - - 622 43

7195 25

G. H. STUART, Treas.

(Document E.)

Report of the Treasurer of the Domestic Missionary Fund.

1847.

June 2,	Cash rec'd, 3d R. P. Cong., Phila., per G. H. Stuart,	\$50,00
Oct. 2,	" Mr. M·Kelvey, per Rev. J. M·Master,	5,00
"	" Rev. J. M·Master, Treasurer Western Presbytery,	12,00

1848.

April,	" Rev. Alex. M. Stewart, per John Smith of Bloomington Domestic Mission Fund,	2,00
"	" Rev. J. M·Master, per Rev. A. W. Black, from Princeton, Ia. and other places,	15,00
May,	" Rev. J. M·Master, per Rev. A. W. Black, from Princeton,	13,00
Oct. 7,	" Subscription of G. H. Stuart, Phila.	50,00

\$147,00

CONTRA.

1847, June 2,	Paid by order of synod, D. J. Patterson,	\$50,00
Oct. 2,	" Rev. J. M·Master for H. M·Kelvey,	5,00
" 7,	Balance in hands of the treasurer,	92,00

\$147,00

Balance in hands of H. Sterling, treasurer, \$92,00.

* The apparatus here referred to, was purchased with funds appropriated by their contributors to this object, when found not to be necessary for the outfit of the missionaries.

(Document F.)

THEOLOGICAL SEMINARY FUND.

1848.		NORTHERN PRESBYTERY.	
Feb'y. 15,	To cash from Rev. A. G. Wylie's Congregation,	\$20	00
April 10,	" " " " Dr. M'Leod's " "	70	00
" " " "	Simpson Fund, - - -	25	00
" " " "	Mr. Wm. Cunningham, - - -	5	00
		—	120 00
1847.		PHILADELPHIA PRESBYTERY.	
July 27,	" " 2d Ch. Phila., per Mr. Jos. Fleming,	15	00
1848.			
March 27,	" " Rev. Dr. Wylie's Congregation, -	50	00
June 13,	" " Wm. Sterrett's " -	10	00
Oct'r. 6,	" " R. J. Black's " -	5	06
		—	80 06
		PITTSBURGH PRESBYTERY.	
" 14,	" " Rev. Dr. Black's Congregation, -	8	33
" " " "	" " A. W. Black's " -	7	00
		—	15 33
		OHIO PRESBYTERY.	
March 15,	} " Rev. Hugh M'Millan's Congregation,	20 00	
April 23,			
Oct'r. 9,			
		WESTERN PRESBYTERY.	
Feb'y. 15,	" " Rev. Samuel Wylie's Congregation,	6	30
" " " "	" " John M'Master's " "	5	70
March 16,	" " Mrs. Jane Kell, - - -	5	00
		—	17 00
Oct'r. 16,	" Balance due Treasurer this day, - - -	119	91
			—
			\$372 30

1847.

PAYMENTS.

May 29,	By balance due Treasurer per last report to Synod,	72	30
1848.			
April 10 & 13,	By Cash paid Rev. Dr. Wylie, Professor, in full salary for Session 1847, '48, - - -	300	00
		—	\$372 30

E. E.—Oct. 16, 1848.

GEO. H. STUART, Treasurer.

We, the undersigned, auditing committee, report having examined the above reports and find them correct.

Auditing Committee, { WILLIAM AGNEW,
THOMAS CUMMING.

(Document C.)—REV. MR. CLARKE'S REPORT.

Geographical Situation.—The district in which Mr. Clarke has been labouring is the Isthmus of Cumberland, the neck of land which unites New Brunswick and Nova Scotia, and separates the Bay of Fundy from the Gulf of St. Lawrence. It is comprised in the counties of Cumberland and Westmoreland, and is about sixty or seventy miles in length, and the same in breadth.

Former Condition.—When first visited by Mr. Clarke in 1828, there was not a single family in connexion with the Reformed Presbyterian church. Baptists, Methodists, Episcopalians, masked Romanists, and a sprinkling of Universalists were found, with a large number who made no pretensions to any religious creed. There were few, if any, Presbyterians, and certainly no organization. Under these circumstances the Banner of the Covenant was unfurled, and the system of gospel truth embraced by the Reformed Presbyterian Church proclaimed.

Results.—The visible fruits of twenty years' incessant and indescribably severe labour, in the face of much opposition from without and not a little trouble from within, under manifold privations, a terribly severe climate, and numerous circumstantial inconveniences, may be seen by the following account of the various stations now occupied, and their present condition.

1. *Amherst.*—There has been erected in this place a very commodious house of worship, and the attendance is large, regular, and respectable. At present there is but one ruling elder, Mr. Robert Cooke—Mr. J. Armitage and Mr. J. Buchanan having been removed by death. A Bible class is held by the pastor, once every week.

2. *Napan.*—This place is about six miles from Amherst, and, like it, an old settlement advanced in improvement and population. The attendance here is large, although the number of church members in communion with us is but few as yet. The community consist chiefly of Wesleyans, but our ministry is respectably sustained.

3. *Goose River.*—This is a new settlement, to which there is at present much emigration. It is twenty miles from Amherst, on the Gulf of St. Lawrence. We have here a house of worship, and a prayer-meeting, and flourishing Sabbath-school and week day school. Nearly forty families are in connexion with us at this station, where also we have an elder, Mr. A. Ferguson, a very worthy and zealous man.

4. *Chimoguee*, (pronounced *Shim-o-gee*.)—This station is on the Gulf of St. Lawrence, thirty-eight miles from Amherst. We have here a good house of worship, and three prayer-meetings. About forty-five families attend our services. We have three elders, Messrs. Peacock, Scott, and Anderson, all good men of most excellent character.

5. *Suckville*, and 6. *Jolicure.*—The former of these places is ten, and the latter, twelve miles from Amherst, and they are seven miles distant from each other. They are old and wealthy settlements. We have a church built in the latter, and in the former use a public hall. There are a few members, but no session. Preaching is maintained, in the one place in the forenoon, and in the other place in the afternoon of the same day.

7. *River Hebert.*—This station is eighteen miles from Amherst. It is a promising neighbourhood, and is able to build a church.

With all these stations there are connected other preaching places, where the ordinances are dispensed occasionally. Hitherto they have all been self-sustaining missions, having been kept up without cost to any society as such. Under the Divine blessing the work has been done by individual exertion.

They are now committed to the care of the General Synod of the Reformed Presbyterian Church, having been received by the Northern Presbytery, to which they are nearest. With great promptness and liberality that presbytery has sent a most excellent young man, (Rev. H. Gordon,) who, it is trusted, will be adequately sustained.

Document H.—CONFERENCE OF PRESBYTERIAN CHURCHES ON CHRISTIAN UNION.

MISSION ROOMS, NEW YORK, Oct. 2d, 1848, 11 o'clock, A. M.

In pursuance of the invitation of the General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church in the United States, by their Committee, the Conference on Christian Union met at the time and place above mentioned.

On motion, Rev. Dr. Knox was called to the chair. At his request, Rev. Dr. Stark opened the meeting by prayer.

On motion, Rev. Dr. M'Leod was appointed Secretary.

Dr. M'Leod explained that he and the other brethren of the Reformed Presbyterian Church who were present had not appeared by virtue of any formal appointment of the Synod to which they belonged, that body having not yet met or acted upon the invitation addressed to their Stated Clerk. They were acting at the request of other brethren of their Church approving of the object of the Conference, and on their own responsibility.

It being still desired by the members present, Dr. M'Leod proceeded to act as Secretary.

On ascertaining the members of Conference, there were present as follows:

Of the General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church in the United States—Rev. Drs. Phillips, Potts, Snodgrass, Krebs, and Mr. Oliphant.

Of the General Synod of the Reformed Protestant Dutch Church—Rev. Dr. Knox.

Of the Associate Synod of North America—Rev. Dr. Stark.

Of the General Synod of the Reformed Presbyterian Church in North America—Rev. Dr. M'Leod, Rev. Alexander Clarke, Rev. D. J. Paterson.

Of the Associate Reformed Synod of New York—Rev. A. H. Wright.

Rev. Dr. Snodgrass, Secretary of the Committee of the General Assembly, stated the object of the meeting, which is to inquire "Whether some plan of intercourse

and combined effort may not be adopted which may specifically include those denominations who hold the same faith and the same ecclesiastical form of government and discipline, substantially and truly, that may greatly contribute to more intimate and complete unity in sentiment, affection and practice."

After some general conversation, the Secretary was requested to notify the delegates of the Reformed Protestant Dutch Church, understood to be in the city, of the time and place of the next meeting, whereupon, on motion, the Conference adjourned, to meet to-morrow at 12 o'clock, M., in this place.

Rev. Dr. Phillips concluded by prayer.

SAME PLACE, Oct. 3d, 12 o'clock, M.

The Conference met, and, on motion of Rev. Dr. Knox, Rev. Dr. M'Jimsey was called to the chair, and opened the meeting by prayer.

The minutes of the last meeting were read and approved.

Rev. Dr. M'Jimsey, Rev. J. B. Dales and Rev. Henry Connelly, of the Associate Reformed Synod of New York, appeared, and took their seats.

Of those present yesterday, there were absent, Rev. Dr. Potts, Rev. D. J. Patterson.

Rev. Dr. Snodgrass read the proceedings of the General Assembly on the subject of union and intercourse among the Bodies invited. He also read a communication, signed "Wm. T. Findley," of a Committee of the General Associate Reformed Synod of the West. It approved of the objects of the Conference, and announced the appointment by the Synod of delegates to it.

Dr. S. read, further, a communication signed "Wm. McWhorter," Due West Corner, S. C. It referred to the same subject, and expressed the favourable feelings with which it is regarded by the Associate Reformed Synod of the South.

Dr. Snodgrass also stated, that if any bodies designed to be embraced in the invitation of the Assembly, had not as yet received an invitation, the defect might be supplied prior to the next meeting.

Rev. Mr. Dales stated that the probable reason why none of the delegates from the Associate Reformed Synod of the West were present, was their detention by the meeting of their own Synod, or the opening of the Seminary of their Church.

The following resolutions were proposed by Rev. Drs. Knox and Krebs, and after a general interchange of opinion on them, and on the whole subject, by the members, were unanimously adopted.

Resolved, That a committee be appointed to make all necessary arrangements for a future meeting of the delegates appointed, or to be appointed, by the several branches of the Presbyterian Church named in the Resolutions of the General Assembly of May, 1847; and also to prepare suggestions and subjects for the consideration of such meeting, with the view of facilitating its business, and directing its deliberations to the best results.

Resolved, That the foregoing committee be directed to communicate the above resolution to the various bodies named, and also to send an invitation to such bodies as have not yet acted upon the invitation of the General Assembly, including the Associate Synod of North America, and the Synod of Reformed Presbyterians not yet invited.

Resolved, That this committee consist of the original committee of the General Assembly, together with a member for each of the bodies represented.

Proceeded to the appointment of the additional members of the committee by vote. The following were chosen:—

Of the Associate Reformed Synod of New York—Rev. Dr. M'Jimsey.

Of the General Synod of the Reformed Protestant Dutch Church—Rev. Dr. Knox.

Of the Associate Synod of North America—Rev. Dr. Stark.

Of the General Synod of the Reformed Presbyterian Church in North America—Rev. Dr. M'Leod.

Of the Synod of the German Reformed Church—Rev. Dr. Berg.

Of the Associate Reformed General Synod of the West—Rev. Dr. J. T. Pressley.

Of the Associate Reformed Synod of the South—Rev. Dr. E. Pressly.

Of the Associate Synod of North America (not yet invited)—Rev. Dr. Rodgers.

Of the Synod of Reformed Presbyterians (not yet invited)—Rev. Mr. Stevenson.

Resolved, That the Conference adjourn, to meet on the second Tuesday of April next, at 11 o'clock, A. M., in this place.

Resolved, That the Secretary be requested to publish the proceedings of this meeting in the religious papers.

Concluded with prayer by Rev. Dr. Knox.

Attest,

JOHN N. M'LEOD, Secretary.

New York, Oct. 5th, 1848.

Other religious papers of the bodies represented are requested to publish the above.

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